

Message Text

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ORIGIN NASA-02

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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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SUBJECT: EARTH RESOURCES SATELLITE GROUND FACILITIES

REF: CAIRO 1024

1. NASA WELCOMES EGYPTIAN (AND SAUDI) INTEREST IN REGIONAL EARTH RESOURCES SATELLITE GROUND FACILITIES.

2. IN RESPONSE PARA FOUR REFTEL, MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING PROVIDING DIRECT ACCESS TO LANDSAT SATELLITES (FORMERLY ERTS, NOW LANDSAT-1 AND -2) WOULD BE CONCLUDED BETWEEN NASA AND EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT AGENCY SELECTED BY GOE. UNDER AGREEMENT, FOREIGN AGENCY FUNDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LANDSAT DATA ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING GROUND STATION. IN RETURN FOR DIRECT ACCESS TO LANDSATS, AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR FOREIGN AGENCY TO MAKE DATA ACQUIRED FREELY AVAILABLE TO:

A) NASA-SELECTED EXPERIMENTERS IN REGION OF STATION (WITHOUT CHARGE).

B) ALL OTHERS REQUESTING DATA WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION (AT REASONABLE UNCLASSIFIED

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CHARGE).

(FYI NASA HAS MADE NO EXCEPTIONS TO ABOVE PROVISION WHICH APPLIES TO DATA THEMSELVES. ANALYSES OF DATA ACQUIRED MAY OF COURSE BE HELD PROPRIETARY. END FYI)

AGREEMENT FURTHER GRANTS NASA OPTION TO ESTABLISH USERS' FEE AFTER SPECIFIED INTERVAL. SIMILAR AGREEMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN CONCLUDED WITH CANADA, BRAZIL, ITALY, IRAN AND ZAIRE.

3. CANADIAN AND BRAZILIAN STATIONS NOW OPERATING. ITALIAN STATION BECOMES OPERATIONAL AFTER MID-1975. IRANIAN AND ZAIRIAN STATIONS IN PLANNING STAGES. EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT DATA OF EGYPT COULD BE ACQUIRED BY ITALIAN AND IRANIAN STATIONS WHEN COMPLETED.

4. FURTHER EGYPTIAN INQUERIES REGARDING THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO: MR. ARNOLD W. FRUTKIN, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, NASA HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20546.
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